

Army to Check Complaints by Joliet Builders

By **ROBERT W. RICHARDS**

WASHINGTON — (Copley Press Leased Wire)—The department of the army today notified Rep. Noah M. Mason (R-Ill) that it will investigate complaints by building contractors in the area that the Joliet Arsenal is "pirating" their construction workers for jobs in the explosive and shell loading plants at Elwood and Kankakee.

A number of Joliet builders and roofers protested to Mason that they have been unable to hold their forces together against more attractive cost plus employment rates by the Rusk Engineering Company, operating the arsenal.

Mason dutifully referred the complaints to the ordnance department of the army. He said he assumed the arsenal was under pressure from Washington to replenish ammunition, after the congressional expose in the senate of a shortage in Korea and elsewhere, which was confirmed by Gen. James Van Fleet, retired 8th army commander.

The army replied to Mason's inquiry that it would look into the complaints.